POL 14 VIET-S

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INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

3 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Joan Ugalde DATE 10/5/81
RDS ☐ or DES ☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
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SEP 11

III MAF PASS INFO IMMEDIATE TO POLAD FRANCIS

1. OFFICIAL ELECTION STATISTICS FOR THUA THIEN AND HUE AS POSTED ON ELECTION BOARDS AT VIS AND PROVINCE HEADQUARTERS SHOW VOTING STATISTICS AS FOLLOWS:

A. HUE CITY (47,954 VOTERS)

0800: 2,596 OR 6.2 PERCENT VOTED
0900: 8,495 OR 17.7 PERCENT VOTED
1000: 13,036 OR 27.1 PERCENT VOTED
1100: 26,672 OR 55.6 PERCENT VOTED
1200: 30,138 OR 62.8 PERCENT VOTED

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B. THUA THIEN PROVINCE (187,786 VOTERS)

1000: 30,710 OR 16.3 PERCENT VOTED
1200: 69,742 OR 37.1 PERCENT VOTED

2. CITY IN FESTIVE DRESS WITH FLAGS, ARCHES OVER STREETS, AND BANNERS ALL OVER CITY. TRUCKS CARRYING BAND AND SPEAKER TRUCKS MAKING REGULAR TOURS THROUGH CITY. ALL THREE MAJOR MARKETS, DONG BA, BEN NGU AND AN CUU IN FULL OPERATION. PEOPLE OUT ALL OVER TOWN AND THERE SEEMS TO BE STEADY STREAM TO POLLING PLACES. AT 1045 OBSERVED TRUCK LOAD OF PATIENTS APPARENTLY FROM ARVN 1ST DIVISION HOSPITAL ARRIVE AT ONE VOTING SITE INSIDE CITADEL.

3. 1030 HOURS AT DIEU DE PAGODA ALL QUIET. ONE BANNER URGING PRAYERS FOR TRI QUANG IN EVIDENCE. AT TU DAM NO CROWD, ONLY MONKS AND NUNS CONTINUING FAST. BANNERS URGING PRAYER FOR TRI QUANG.

4. DURING NIGHT SEPTEMBER 10 AND MORNING HOURS SEPTEMBER 11 A FEW VC INCIDENTS REPORTED. AT 2100 HOURS SEPTEMBER 10 A HAMLET CHIEF IN HUONG THUY DISTRICT WAS STOPPED AND 120 VOTERS CARDS, A VOTERS ROSTER AND SOME POSTERS TAKEN FROM HIM AND BURNED. HAMLET CHIEF APPARENTLY UNINJURED. EARLIER IN HUONG THUY A SIMILAR INCIDENT REPORTED AT 1645. APPROXIMATELY 100 CARDS COLLECTED AND BURNED. PRIOR 1700 HOURS INCIDENT REPORTED IN PHONG DIEN DISTRICT. UNKNOWN NUMBER OF ID CARDS COLLECTED AND BURNED.

5. ON ELECTION DAY SEPTEMBER 11, HAVE BEEN 3 REPORTS OF VC HOLDING PEOPLE IN HAMLETS IN PHU LOC DISTRICT AND NOT ALLOWING THEM TO GO VOTE. TWO INCIDENTS OF VOTING SITES BEING MORTARED IN PHU THU DISTRICT BUT RESULTS SO FAR UNKNOWN.

6. ONE REPORT RECEIVED FROM QUANGHUTRI PROVINCE INDICATES VC ARE HOLDING VILLAGERS IN HAMLETS AND NOT ALLOWING THEM TO VOTE IN STRING OF VILLAGES IN HAI LANG DISTRICT.

7. COMMENT: SO FAR ELECTION GOING SMOOTHLY. VC INCIDENTS AS OF 1200 HOURS WAY BELOW EXPECTED LEVEL WITH NO ENGAGEMENTS BETWEEN FORCES. BUDDHIST ACTIVITY NOT APPARENT EXCEPT FOR APPARENTLY INEFFECTIVE HUNGER STRIKE. BIG SURGE OF VOTERS IN HUE CITY BETWEEN 1000-1100 HOURS WHEN OVER 25 PERCENT VOTERS VOTED. PERHAPS HAD BEEN HOLDING BACK BUT AFTER NO INCIDENTS OCCURRED WENT TO VOTE.
CORCORAN
LODGE

NOTE: ADVANCE COPY TO S/S-O AT 4:02 A.M., SEPTEMBER 11. PASSED WHITE HOUSE, DOD, CIA, USIA, NSA 4:02 A.M., SEPT. 11.

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